

**15<sup>th</sup> October, 2025**

**Howrah**

**PRESS NOTE**

Hon'ble Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee today held a Review Meeting with senior officials of State and District administration at *Lal Kothi*, GTA Headquarters, to assess the progress of relief and rehabilitation measures in the districts of Darjeeling and Kalimpong, which have been affected by recent floods and landslides.

During the meeting, Hon'ble Chief Minister reviewed the status of ongoing relief operations, including distribution of essential supplies, operation of gruel kitchens, provision of clothes and blankets, and supply of books to students. She announced the re-construction of the damaged houses for affected families under the Banglar Bari scheme, as well as the reconstruction and restoration of damaged bridges, roads, and culverts.

As part of the ongoing humanitarian efforts, Special Relief Kits containing essential food items namely, Rice, Masur Dal, Potato, Onion, Soya Chunks, Sugar, Salt, Milk Powder, Haldi, Jeera Powder, Lal Mirch, and Mustard Oil were distributed to the affected families to ensure uninterrupted food security. Additionally, Disaster Management (DM) Kits comprising vital household utensils and essentials including Plastic Bucket with Lid, Plastic Jug, Plastic Mug, Steel Plate, Steel Glass, Handi with Lid, Kadhai, Khunti, Tub, Hata (Serving Spoon), Bowl, and Stove were provided to restore basic domestic functionality for the affected families. The Hon'ble Chief Minister personally oversaw the relief distribution across several affected areas, interacting with the affected families and reviewing on-ground rehabilitation measures.

Special attention was drawn to the organization of special outreach camps to facilitate reissuance of vital documents lost during the disaster. Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the Forest Department to undertake extensive plantation drives and implement Nature-Based Solutions to strengthen disaster risk reduction and environmental resilience. Those who worked tirelessly during the crisis, including members of the Civil Defence, Fire Brigade, Police, Health Department, and local community volunteers amongst others, were felicitated today by the Hon'ble Chief Minister in recognition of their exemplary dedication and selfless service during the relief and rescue operations.

She further instructed the Chief Secretary to convene a meeting with the affected tea gardens and other relevant stakeholders to assess damages and coordinate appropriate remedial action. Hon'ble Chief Minister emphasized the need for adequate desiltation of rivers in hilly areas and major dams and barrages in the state to mitigate flood risks in the future.

As a part of the State's coordinated response, Hon'ble Chief Minister announced the formation of a *State-Level Task Force* to oversee relief, restoration, and rehabilitation efforts in the affected areas of North Bengal.

In a personal gesture of solidarity, Hon'ble Chief Minister announced a personal contribution of ₹5 lakh to the West Bengal State Disaster Management Authority (WBSDMA) Fund and appealed to all citizens and organizations to extend their support towards the State's ongoing relief and rehabilitation initiatives. Contributions may be made to the following account:

**Account Name:** M/s West Bengal State Disaster Management Authority

**Account Number:** 628001041066

**Bank:** ICICI Bank Limited, Howrah – 711101

**IFSC Code:** ICIC0006280

**Branch Code:** 006280

**MICR Code:** 700229010

Relief distribution drives continue to be undertaken under the close supervision of senior state and district officials, with 24×7 Control Rooms operational at the District, Sub-Divisional, and Block levels to monitor and coordinate ongoing efforts. Departments such as PHE, PWD, Health, Power, Irrigation & Waterways, ARD, and Forest are simultaneously assessing damages to plan and implement long-term restoration measures.

The Government of West Bengal remains fully committed to ensuring the safety, rehabilitation, and speedy recovery of all affected families. Relief and reconstruction activities are being carried out on a war footing and will continue until complete normalcy is restored.